

TO: Duane L. Shroufe, Director

FROM: Bob Broscheid, Assistant Director *bb*
Wildlife Management Division

PRESENTER: Brian F. Wakeling, Big Game Management Supervisor

TITLE: Consideration of Proposed Commission Orders 5, 6, 8, and 9, for Spring 2008 Hunting Seasons.

DESCRIPTION: The Commission will consider and may vote to approve Commission orders 5, 6, 8, and 9 (spring turkey, spring javelina, spring buffalo, and spring bear) establishing seasons and season dates, bag and possession limits, permit numbers, and open areas.

DATE: July 18, 2007

Summary:

The following text describes Department recommendations for Commission orders 5, 6, 8, and 9 (see attached proposed Commission orders). No public meetings were held specifically regarding hunt recommendations for spring 2008, although an open house was held in each region where the public could review these hunt recommendations.

The Commission provided the Department with direction about enhancing opportunity for hunters in Arizona, specifically targeting junior opportunities for turkey and javelina. Specific allocations for javelina permits by season types have been adjusted to reflect first choice applicant demand statewide within these recommendations.

Commission Order 5 – Spring Turkey

The recommendation for spring 2008 is 6,983 permits (737 permit increase from 2007 season), which is the highest number of recommended spring permits to date. The 2008 spring turkey season is recommended to continue stratified seasons in all units. The first stratified hunt would have the dates of April 25 to May 1 and May 9 to May 22, and the second stratified hunt would have the dates of May 2 to May 22. Six permits are recommended (3 in each stratified season) for Gould's turkey in Unit 35A, and a new Gould's turkey hunt with 2 permits (1 in each stratified season) is recommended in Unit 29. Three permits are recommended on Fort Huachuca in addition to the 6 permits recommendation off of the Fort in Unit 35A for a total of 9 permits in that unit.

The 2007 limited weapon shooting shot spring turkey season produced a harvest of 1,374 birds and a statewide hunter success rate of 26%. This is the largest spring harvest to date, and hunt

success remained relatively high. This is the twelfth year that wildlife managers have used the turkey management scorecards to calculate permit levels. During this time frame, spring turkey season harvest has increased, with some fluctuations, from 631 in 1996 to the current high.

Last year was the ninth year offering of a juniors-only turkey season. A total of 225 permits were offered. In 2007, 202 junior turkey hunters reported harvesting 105 birds (52% hunter success). There were 563 first-choice applicants for the 225 juniors-only permits.

In 2008, the juniors-only season is recommended for 350 permits (4.8% of total) to begin one week earlier than the standard seasons and run for 5 weeks, April 18-May 22, 2008; this season structure is similar to last year. Juniors-only permits are recommended for an increase of 125 with 25 permits in Unit 6A, 50 permits each in Units 1, 3C, 5B, 8 and 10, and 23, and 75 in Unit 27. Junior opportunity has been distributed across the state.

Recommendation:

The Department recommends that the Commission **VOTE TO ADOPT COMMISSION ORDER 5 – SPRING TURKEY, AS PRESENTED.**

Commission Order 6 – Spring Javelina

Department javelina permit and season recommendations are based on Commission direction, public comment, and hunt guidelines. In December 2006, the Commission directed the Department to equitably distribute permits according to demand. Based on the 5-year average of application demand, the Department recommends providing about 42% general, 35% archery, 19.5% handgun, archery, and muzzleloader (HAM), and 3.5% junior permits. Archery seasons are recommended for January 1-24, 2008, juniors seasons for January 25-February 3, 2008, HAM seasons for February 8-17, 2008, and general seasons for February 22-28, 2008.

This year's spring recommendation is for 11,705 general, 970 juniors, 5,440 HAM, and 9,645 archery permits. This is an increase of 225 general permits, an increase of 105 juniors permits, a decrease of 25 HAM permits, and an increase of 445 archery permits.

Recommendation:

The Department recommends that the Commission **VOTE TO ADOPT COMMISSION ORDER 6 – SPRING JAVELINA, AS PRESENTED.**

Commission Order 8 – Spring Buffalo

In 1994, the Commission implemented a spring buffalo season at Raymond Wildlife Area. The spring season structure has subsequently expanded to include House Rock Wildlife Area and has proven popular with hunters.

One season is proposed for the House Rock herd with 10 any buffalo tags. The proposed dates are January 1-May 11, 2008. Spring seasons have been relatively successful and the public has requested increased opportunity to pursue buffalo at House Rock. Fall hunts have proven difficult because buffalo continue to move onto the Grand Canyon National Park where hunting is not allowed. Population management seasons have been used to a greater degree recently to harvest buffalo during late summer and fall because these hunts can be scheduled in short time frames to take advantage of the unpredictable migrations of buffalo at House Rock. Scheduling general seasons to occur following population management seasons is likely to result in complaints from hunters; increasing opportunity preceding any potential population management seasons is likely to be more effective and successful.

Five hunts for yearling buffalo at Raymond Wildlife Area (2 permits each) are recommended, which is an increase of 2 permits. The proposed season dates are January 5-6, January 12-13, January 26-27, February 2-3, and February 9-10, 2008. Weekend hunts have been requested by the hunters at Raymond and respective harvests have been achieved with little difficulty.

Recommendation:

The Department recommends that the Commission **VOTE TO ADOPT COMMISSION ORDER 8 – SPRING BUFFALO, AS PRESENTED.**

Commission Order 9 – Spring Bear

Spring bear seasons were first authorized by the Commission in 1985 as a method to reduce the harvest of female bears, while still affording bear hunting opportunities. Very few bears are harvested annually during these hunts. Since 1985, 50 male and 16 female bears have been harvested during the spring bear season. During 2007, 3 male and 5 female bears were harvested.

The 2007 spring bear season was the seventeenth year of offering a season that would remain open until either a specified number of female bears were reported harvested or the season closed. In 2007, 3 male bears and 5 female bears were harvested, of which 3 males and 4 females were taken with archery. These bears were harvested in Units 24A (1 female during general season), 34A (2 male and 2 female during archery season), and 35A (1 male and 2 female during archery season). Unit 34A archery season was the first spring season to be closed because the harvest reached the female harvest objective.

C.O. 5, 6, 8, and 9

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The Department is recommending a March 21 to April 29, 2008 general spring bear season with 405 permits, which would also close the first Wednesday after the female harvest objective is reached. This year's general spring bear recommendation is identical in structure and female harvest objectives as that approved by the Commission last year, with the addition of 15 permits in Unit 34A. Fort Huachuca is again recommended to be open in conjunction with Units 35A and 35B.

In 2008, the Department is recommending a 250-permit archery-only spring bear season with no change to female harvest objectives, except an increase of 1 to Unit 33 (total of 2). All seasons are recommended to be standardized, either beginning on March 21 and running to July 31, 2008 or, if they also have a general season, beginning on April 30 and running to July 31, 2008. Fort Huachuca is also recommended to be open with a harvest objective established in conjunction with Unit 35A/35B, although this season would remain open until August 31, 2008.

Each open unit is also recommended to have an associated annual harvest objective that is generally equivalent to 10% of the estimated adult female portion of the population subject to harvest. If that annual harvest objective is reached either through hunter harvest or Department action (i.e., euthanasia), subsequent hunts would not be initiated. As with the fall 2007 hunts, the individual hunt harvest objective will also reflect removal through hunter harvest or Department action (i.e., euthanasia).

Recommendation:

The Department recommends that the Commission **VOTE TO ADOPT COMMISSION ORDER 9 – SPRING BEAR, AS PRESENTED.**

BB:BFW:bw

Attachment

Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 5: Turkey

Limited Weapon-Shotgun Shooting Shot Spring Turkey

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
	Apr 25 - May 1, and May 9 - May 22, 2008		1	Bearded turkey	500
	May 2 - May 22, 2008		1	Bearded turkey	525
	Apr 25 - May 1, and May 9 - May 22, 2008		3B	Bearded turkey	100
	May 2 - May 22, 2008		3B	Bearded turkey	100
	Apr 25 - May 1, and May 9 - May 22, 2008	(5)	3C	Bearded turkey	175
	May 2 - May 22, 2008	(5)	3C	Bearded turkey	175
	Apr 25 - May 1, and May 9 - May 22, 2008		4A and 4B	Bearded turkey	250
	May 2 - May 22, 2008		4A and 4B	Bearded turkey	250
	Apr 25 - May 1, and May 9 - May 22, 2008		5A	Bearded turkey	225
	May 2 - May 22, 2008		5A	Bearded turkey	225
	Apr 25 - May 1, and May 9 - May 22, 2008		5B	Bearded turkey	150
	May 2 - May 22, 2008		5B	Bearded turkey	150
	Apr 25 - May 1, and May 9 - May 22, 2008		6A	Bearded turkey	350
	May 2 - May 22, 2008		6A	Bearded turkey	350
	Apr 25 - May 1, and May 9 - May 22, 2008	(1)	6B (except Camp Navajo)	Bearded turkey	100
	May 2 - May 22, 2008	(1)	6B (except Camp Navajo)	Bearded turkey	125
	Apr 25 - May 1, and May 9 - May 22, 2008		7	Bearded turkey	150
	May 2 - May 22, 2008		7	Bearded turkey	175
	Apr 25 - May 1, and May 9 - May 22, 2008		8 and 10	Bearded turkey	200
	May 2 - May 22, 2008		8 and 10	Bearded turkey	125
	Apr 25 - May 1, and May 9 - May 22, 2008		9	Bearded turkey	35
	May 2 - May 22, 2008		9	Bearded turkey	35
	Apr 25 - May 1, and May 9 - May 22, 2008		12A	Bearded turkey	300
	May 2 - May 22, 2008		12A	Bearded turkey	300
	Apr 25 - May 1, and May 9 - May 22, 2008	(2)	13A	Bearded turkey	20
	May 2 - May 22, 2008	(2)	13A	Bearded turkey	10
	Apr 25 - May 1, and May 9 - May 22, 2008	(2)	13B (South of Wolfhole - Jacobs Well Road)	Bearded turkey	20
	May 2 - May 22, 2008	(2)	13B (South of Wolfhole - Jacobs Well Road)	Bearded turkey	15
	Apr 25 - May 1, and May 9 - May 22, 2008		17A, 17B, and 18B	Bearded turkey	15
	May 2 - May 22, 2008		17A, 17B, and 18B	Bearded turkey	20
	Apr 25 - May 1, and May 9 - May 22, 2008		22	Bearded turkey	90
	May 2 - May 22, 2008		22	Bearded turkey	90
	Apr 25 - May 1, and May 9 - May 22, 2008		23	Bearded turkey	225
	May 2 - May 22, 2008		23	Bearded turkey	225
	Apr 25 - May 1, and May 9 - May 22, 2008		27	Bearded turkey	625
	May 2 - May 22, 2008		27	Bearded turkey	550

Limited Weapon-Shotgun Shooting Shot Spring Turkey

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
	Apr 25 - May 1, and May 9 - May 22, 2008	(3)	29	Bearded turkey	1
	May 2 - May 22, 2008	(3)	29	Bearded turkey	1
	Apr 25 - May 1, and May 9 - May 22, 2008	(3)	35A (except Fort Huachuca)	Bearded turkey	3
	May 2 - May 22, 2008	(3)	35A (except Fort Huachuca)	Bearded turkey	3
	Apr 25 - May 22, 2008	(1)	Camp Navajo in Unit 6B	Bearded turkey	
	Apr 25 - May 22, 2008	(3,4)	Fort Huachuca in Unit 35A	Bearded turkey	
				Total	6983

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any shotgun shooting shot as prescribed in R12-4-318 or crossbow or bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Spring Turkey hunt permit-tag obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114. Applicants must apply by Hunt Number.

Juniors-Only Limited Weapon Shotgun Shooting Shot Spring Turkey

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
	Apr 18 - May 22, 2008		1	Bearded turkey	50
	Apr 18 - May 22, 2008	(5)	3C	Bearded turkey	50
	Apr 18 - May 22, 2008		5B	Bearded turkey	50
	Apr 18 - May 22, 2008		6A	Bearded turkey	25
	Apr 18 - May 22, 2008		8 and 10	Bearded turkey	50
	Apr 18 - May 22, 2008		23	Bearded turkey	50
	Apr 18 - May 22, 2008		27	Bearded turkey	75
				Total	350

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any shotgun shooting shot as prescribed in R12-4-318 or crossbow or bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Spring Turkey hunt permit-tag obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114. Applicants must apply by Hunt Number.

ELIGIBLE HUNTERS: Persons are eligible to participate up to and throughout the calendar year of their 17th birthday, provided that persons between the ages 10 and 13 have satisfactorily completed a Hunter Education Course that is approved by the Director as per ARS 17-335 (C).

Notes:

1. Camp Navajo in Unit 6B is open to turkey hunting only to properly licensed hunters holding a valid Camp Navajo hunting permit. A hunter education course is required. Hunt numbers must be obtained from the Arizona National Guard. For more information on how to apply for a Camp Navajo hunt, go to www.campnavajo.com and select Hunting. Increases in Force Protection may result in hunt cancellations at any time with little or no prior notification. In the event a hunt is cancelled due to an increase in security, hunters drawn for these permits will not be reimbursed or otherwise compensated by the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Applications for these hunts must be submitted to the Arizona Game and Fish Department by the published deadline.
2. The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.
3. Turkeys in Units 29 and 35A are Gould's turkeys.
4. The Fort Huachuca Military Reservation in Unit 35A is open to turkey hunting only to properly licensed Fort Huachuca military and civilian personnel holding a valid Fort Huachuca post hunting permit. Hunt numbers, season dates and/or special regulations must be obtained from Fort Huachuca. Increases in Force Protection may result in hunt cancellations at any time with little or no prior notification. In the event a hunt is cancelled due to an increase in security, hunters drawn for these permits will not be reimbursed or otherwise compensated by the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Applications for these hunts must be submitted to the Arizona Game and Fish Department by the published deadline. Fort Huachuca contact information: Commander, U.S. Army Garrison, ATTN: ATZS-ISB (Wildlife), Fort Huachuca, AZ 85613-6000, (520)-533-1867 or (520) 533-7083, disenrd@hua.army.mil, or www.huachuca.army.mil/usag/dpw/hunting.html.

5. Unit 3C Hunts – For all hunts that include that portion of Unit 3C south of AZ Hwy 260. Due to the Rodeo-Chediski Fire, there are Special Restrictions per Forest Service Order in place: 1) Vehicle access is allowed only on roads marked with white arrows; 2) No overnight camping, except in designated areas. Camping is permitted in five areas south of AZ Hwy 260 including Black Canyon Rim Campground, Gentry Campground, Lewis Campground (contact Lakeside Ranger District first), some portions of the forest west of FS 300, just south of AZ Hwy 260, and some areas west of FS 512; 3) Cross-country travel with any type of motorized vehicle is not allowed; 4) Retrieval of big game is restricted to roads only (hunters with dead, down, and tagged big game animals can travel on any visible roads, including any secondary or two-track, to retrieve their animals). Please call the Black Mesa Ranger District Office (928-535-4481) or Lakeside Ranger District Office (928-368-5111) for questions regarding the Forest Order and camping areas.

TURKEY BAG LIMIT: One (1) turkey per calendar year except as prescribed in R12-4-120.

Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 6: Javelina

General Spring Javelina

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008		6A, 6B (except Camp Navajo), and 8	Any javelina	150
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008		10 and 18A	Any javelina	250
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008		16A	Any javelina	350
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008		17A and 17B	Any javelina	450
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008		18B	Any javelina	500
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008		19A	Any javelina	300
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008		19B	Any javelina	300
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008		20A	Any javelina	350
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008		20B	Any javelina	625
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008		20C	Any javelina	250
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008	(1,4)	21	Any javelina	500
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008		22	Any javelina	675
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008		23	Any javelina	300
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008		24A	Any javelina	250
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008		24B	Any javelina	325
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008		27	Any javelina	125
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008		28	Any javelina	250
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008		29	Any javelina	200
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008		30A	Any javelina	300
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008	(3)	30B	Any javelina	125
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008	(9)	31	Any javelina	175
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008	(9)	32	Any javelina	475
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008		33	Any javelina	600
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008		34A	Any javelina	625
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008		34B	Any javelina	100
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008	(2)	35A (except Fort Huachuca)	Any javelina	75
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008		35B	Any javelina	75
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008	(3)	36A	Any javelina	375
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008	(3)	36B	Any javelina	475
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008	(3)	36C	Any javelina	275
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008	(4)	37A	Any javelina	780
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008	(8)	37B	Any javelina	1000
	Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2008		42 and 44A	Any javelina	100
	Feb 15 - Feb 21, 2008	(2)	Fort Huachuca in Unit 35A	Any javelina	
Total					11705

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any firearm, crossbow, or bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Javelina hunt permit-tag obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114. Applicants must apply by Hunt Number.

Juniors-Only Spring Javelina

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
	Jan 25 - Feb 3, 2008		6A, 6B (except Camp Navajo), and 8	Any javelina	75
	Jan 25 - Feb 3, 2008		10, 17A, 17B, 18A, 19A, 19B, and 20A	Any javelina	100
	Jan 25 - Feb 3, 2008		16A	Any javelina	50
	Jan 25 - Feb 3, 2008		18B	Any javelina	100
	Jan 25 - Feb 3, 2008		20B and 21	Any javelina	65

Juniors-Only Spring Javelina

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
	Jan 25 - Feb 3, 2008		20C	Any javelina	100
	Jan 25 - Feb 3, 2008		22 and 23	Any javelina	50
	Jan 25 - Feb 3, 2008		24A and 24B	Any javelina	45
	Jan 25 - Feb 3, 2008		27	Any javelina	50
	Jan 25 - Feb 3, 2008	(3,9)	28, 29, 30A, 30B, 31, and 32	Any javelina	75
	Jan 25 - Feb 3, 2008	(8)	33, 37A, and 37B	Any javelina	150
	Jan 25 - Feb 3, 2008		34A and 34B	Any javelina	40
	Jan 25 - Feb 3, 2008		35A (except Fort Huachuca) and 35B	Any javelina	20
	Jan 25 - Feb 3, 2008	(3)	36A, 36B, and 36C	Any javelina	50
				Total	970

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any firearm, crossbow, or bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Javelina hunt permit-tag obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114. Applicants must apply by Hunt Number.

ELIGIBLE HUNTERS: Persons are eligible to participate up to and throughout the calendar year of their 17th birthday, provided that persons between the ages 10 and 13 have satisfactorily completed a Hunter Education Course that is approved by the Director as per ARS 17-335 (C).

HAM Spring Javelina

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008		6A, 6B (except Camp Navajo), and 8	Any javelina	50
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008		10 and 18A	Any javelina	100
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008		16A	Any javelina	100
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008		17A and 17B	Any javelina	100
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008		18B	Any javelina	200
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008		19A	Any javelina	100
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008		19B	Any javelina	100
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008		20A	Any javelina	100
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008		20B	Any javelina	325
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008		20C	Any javelina	325
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008	(1,4)	21	Any javelina	200
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008		22	Any javelina	300
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008		23	Any javelina	150
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008		24A	Any javelina	125
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008		24B	Any javelina	150
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008		27	Any javelina	65
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008		28	Any javelina	85
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008		29	Any javelina	40
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008		30A	Any javelina	100
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008	(3)	30B	Any javelina	125
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008	(9)	31	Any javelina	130
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008	(9)	32	Any javelina	325
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008		33	Any javelina	380
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008		34A	Any javelina	285
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008		34B	Any javelina	30
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008	(2)	35A (except Fort Huachuca)	Any javelina	80
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008		35B	Any javelina	80
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008	(3)	36A	Any javelina	165
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008	(3)	36B	Any javelina	150
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008	(3)	36C	Any javelina	115
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008	(4)	37A	Any javelina	360
	Feb 8 - Feb 17, 2008	(8)	37B	Any javelina	500
				Total	5440

HAM Spring Javelina

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Handguns, muzzleloading rifles, muzzleloading handguns, crossbow, or bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-318.					
LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Javelina hunt permit-tag obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114. Applicants must apply by Hunt Number.					

Archery-Only Spring Javelina

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
	Jan 1 - Jan 24, 2008	(4,7)	1, 2A, 2B, 2C, 3A, 3B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 7, 9, 10, 15A, 15B, 15C, 15D, 16A, 17A, 17B, 18A, 18B, 19B, 39, 40A, 40B, 41, 42, 43A, 43B, 44A, and 44B	Any javelina	1750
	Jan 1 - Jan 24, 2008		5A, 5B, 6A, 6B, 8, 11M, and 19A (except Camp Navajo)	Any javelina	800
	Jan 1 - Jan 24, 2008		20A and 20C	Any javelina	400
	Jan 1 - Jan 24, 2008		20B	Any javelina	475
	Jan 1 - Jan 24, 2008	(1,4)	21	Any javelina	420
	Jan 1 - Jan 24, 2008		22	Any javelina	550
	Jan 1 - Jan 24, 2008		23	Any javelina	275
	Jan 1 - Jan 24, 2008		24A	Any javelina	200
	Jan 1 - Jan 24, 2008		24B	Any javelina	250
	Jan 1 - Jan 24, 2008	(5,6)	25M, 26M, and 47M	Any javelina	175
	Jan 1 - Jan 24, 2008		27	Any javelina	100
	Jan 1 - Jan 24, 2008	(3,9)	28, 29, 30A, 30B, 31, and 32	Any javelina	1200
	Jan 1 - Jan 24, 2008	(8)	33 and 37B	Any javelina	1250
	Jan 1 - Jan 24, 2008	(4)	34A, 37A, and 38M	Any javelina	700
	Jan 1 - Jan 24, 2008	(2)	34B, 35A (except Fort Huachuca), and 35B	Any javelina	300
	Jan 1 - Jan 24, 2008	(3)	36A, 36B, and 36C	Any javelina	800
	Jan 1 - Jan 31, 2008	(2)	Fort Huachuca in Unit 35A	Any javelina	
Total					9645

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304 and R12-4-318 and crossbow as prescribed in R12-4-216.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Javelina hunt permit-tag obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114. Applicants must apply by Hunt Number.

Notes:

1. Cave Creek Recreational Area is closed to javelina hunting.
2. The Fort Huachuca Military Reservation in Unit 35A is open to javelina hunting only to properly licensed Fort Huachuca military and civilian personnel holding a valid Fort Huachuca post hunting permit. Hunt numbers, season dates and/or special regulations must be obtained from Fort Huachuca. Increases in Force Protection may result in hunt cancellations at any time with little or no prior notification. In the event a hunt is cancelled due to an increase in security, hunters drawn for these permits will not be reimbursed or otherwise compensated by the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Applications for these hunts must be submitted to the Arizona Game and Fish Department by the published deadline. Fort Huachuca contact information: Commander, U.S. Army Garrison, ATTN: ATZS-ISB (Wildlife), Fort Huachuca, AZ 85613-6000, (520)-533-1867 or (520) 533-7083, disenrd@hua.army.mil, or www.huachuca.army.mil/usag/dpw/hunting.html.
3. The Buenos Aires Refuge is open to javelina hunting as permitted by refuge regulations; all other Refuges are closed.
4. The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.
5. Hunting is not permitted in Unit 26M in the following described area: Those private lands lying just north of the Town of Cave Creek in Sections 10, 11, 12, 14 and 15 of Township 6 North, Range 3 East.
6. Hunting is not permitted in Unit 47M in the following described area: an unincorporated portion of land within the City of Mesa known as the Elliott and Hawes County Island in Section 16, Township 1 South, Range 7 East.

7. Entry into portions of units 40A, 40B, 46A, and 46B is subject to military closure and requires coordination with the Barry M. Goldwater Range (BMGR) for hunting access. A) Weapons impact areas on the Air Force side of the BMGR, to include the East Tactical Range (including the Paradise Well area), are closed to entry at all times. All persons desiring to hunt outside weapons impact areas but within the boundaries of the BMGR located in Units 40A and 40B or to cross the BMGR to access Units 46A and 46B are required to sign a Hold Harmless Agreement and obtain a Special Use Range Permit. More information about the Special Use Range Permit may be obtained by calling the 56th Fighter Wing Range Management Office Public Affairs person at 623-856-8516 or 623-856-8520. B) Access to the Air Force's one public recreation area (Area B) or the Marine Corps side of the BMGR does not require a Special Use Range Permit but still requires a Recreational Permit that can be obtained by calling: the Marine Corps Air Station in Yuma at (928) 269-7150; the Bureau of Land Management, Phoenix Field Office at (623) 580-5500; the Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge at (520) 387-6483 ; the Public Lands Information Center at (602) 417-9300; or the Gila Bend Air Force Auxiliary Field at (928) 683-6200.
8. The Florence Military Reservation (training areas B and D: the areas north and south of Cottonwood Canyon Road) in Unit 37B is subject to short term closures due to military operations, including live fire operations, and requires coordination with the Florence Military Reservation for hunting access. For specific closure dates or any other access concerns, contact the Florence Military Reservation at 602-267-2062. A map of the Florence Military Reservation is located on the Arizona Game and Fish Department's website, azgfd.gov (type Florence Military Reservation in the search box).
9. Unit 31 and 32 hunts -- Access to Aravaipa Canyon Wildlife Area (as prescribed in R12-4-802) is allowed by permit only, available through the Safford Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management. For more information, contact the Safford Field Office at (928) 348-4450 or www.blm.gov/az/sfo/aravaipa/aravaipa.htm.

JAVELINA BAG LIMIT: One (1) javelina per calendar year except as prescribed in R12-4-120.

Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 8: Buffalo

General Spring Buffalo

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
	Jan 5 - Jan 6, 2008	(1)	5A and 5B (Raymond Wildlife Area Herd)	Yearling buffalo only	2
	Jan 12 - Jan 13, 2008	(1)	5A and 5B (Raymond Wildlife Area Herd)	Yearling buffalo only	2
	Jan 26 - Jan 27, 2008	(1)	5A and 5B (Raymond Wildlife Area Herd)	Yearling buffalo only	2
	Feb 2 - Feb 3, 2008	(1)	5A and 5B (Raymond Wildlife Area Herd)	Yearling buffalo only	2
	Feb 9 - Feb 10, 2008	(1)	5A and 5B (Raymond Wildlife Area Herd)	Yearling buffalo only	2
	Jan 1 - May 11, 2008	(2,3)	12A, 12B, and 13A (House Rock Wildlife Area Herd)	Any buffalo	10
				Total	20

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Bow and arrow, centerfire rifles, muzzleloading rifles, or all other rifles using black powder as prescribed in R12-4-304.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Spring Buffalo hunt permit-tag obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114. Applicants must apply by Hunt Number.

Notes:

1. A hunter with a buffalo hunt permit-tag for the Raymond Wildlife Area herd shall be accompanied by an authorized Department employee who shall designate the animal to be harvested and shall hunt in the order scheduled by the Department in accordance with R12-4-306.
2. An unsuccessful hunter, or hunter who did not hunt, with a buffalo hunt permit-tag for the House Rock Wildlife Area herd shall check out in person or by telephone at either the Department's Flagstaff regional office or the House Rock Wildlife Area headquarters within three days following the close of the season. A successful buffalo hunter shall report information about the kill to the Department within five business days after taking the buffalo either in person at the House Rock Wildlife Area headquarters or in person or by telephone at the Department's Flagstaff regional office. If the kill is reported by telephone, the report shall include the name of the hunter, the hunter's tag number, the sex of the buffalo taken, the number of days hunted, and a telephone number where the hunter can be reached for additional information (R12-4-306).
3. The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.

BUFFALO BAG LIMIT: One (1) buffalo in a lifetime except as prescribed in R12-4-120.

HOUSE ROCK BUFFALO HUNT SPECIAL NOTE: During the fall and spring hunts at the House Rock Wildlife Area (HRWA), a significant portion of the herd has in the past moved to the Grand Canyon National Park where hunting is not allowed. Hunters are advised that if this occurs, their ability to successfully harvest a buffalo may be significantly impacted. As with any hunt, circumstances beyond the control of the Arizona Game and Fish Department may prevent the permit holder from being successful. The Arizona Game and Fish Department and Commission disclaims any responsibility to reissue or replace a permit, to reinstate bonus points, to refund any fees, or to provide any other form of relief.

The HRWA buffalo hunt is considered to be one of the most difficult hunts in the state. Buffalo can be difficult to locate. Plan on spending the entire season hunting, as an abbreviated hunt will lower your chances of success. Buffalo hunters must dress and care for their own animals; the Department will not assist. Take time to improve your physical condition. Hunters are often required to walk considerable distances (up to 8 miles) every day over rugged terrain. House Rock hunters should be prepared for remote and primitive conditions.

High clearance or four-wheel drive vehicles are recommended. Some portions of HRWA are included in the U.S. Forest Service wilderness system that does not preclude hunter access but does limit their means of transportation and equipment usage. For more information, call the Flagstaff Regional Office at 928-774-5045.

BUFFALO SPECIALREGULATIONS: Buffalo meat taken under this Order may be sold as prescribed in R12-4-305. SEE BUFFALO HUNT REGULATIONS UNDER R12-4-306.

Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 9: Bear

General Spring Bear

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits	Fem Harv Obj
	Mar 21 - Apr 29, 2008	(1,2,3,8)	6B (except Camp Navajo)	Any bear except sows with cubs	5	1
	Mar 21 - Apr 29, 2008	(1,2,3,8)	24A	Any bear except sows with cubs	25	1
	Mar 21 - Apr 29, 2008	(1,2,3,8)	27	Any bear except sows with cubs	50	1
	Mar 21 - Apr 29, 2008	(1,2,3,8)	29 and 30A	Any bear except sows with cubs	75	1
	Mar 21 - Apr 29, 2008	(1,2,3,5,8)	31	Any bear except sows with cubs	150	2
	Mar 21 - Apr 29, 2008	(1,2,3,5,8)	32	Any bear except sows with cubs	50	1
	Mar 21 - Apr 29, 2008	(1,2,3,8)	34A	Any bear except sows with cubs	30	1
	Mar 21 - Apr 29, 2008	(1,2,3,4,8)	35A and 35B (except Fort Huachuca)	Any bear except sows with cubs	20	2
	Mar 21 - Apr 29, 2008	(1,2,3,4,8)	Fort Huachuca in Unit 35A	Any bear except sows with cubs		1
Total					405	

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any firearm or bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Spring Bear hunt permit-tag obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114. Applicants must apply by Hunt Number.

Archery-Only Spring Bear

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits	Fem Harv Obj
	Mar 21 - Jul 31, 2008	(1,2,3,6,8)	3B and 3C	Any bear except sows with cubs	100	2
	Mar 21 - Jul 31, 2008	(1,2,3,8)	22	Any bear except sows with cubs	50	1
	Mar 21 - Jul 31, 2008	(1,2,3,7,8)	23 North	Any bear except sows with cubs	50	1
	Mar 21 - Jul 31, 2008	(1,2,3,8)	33	Any bear except sows with cubs	10	2
	Apr 30 - Jul 31, 2008	(1,2,3,8)	34A	Any bear except sows with cubs	20	2
	Apr 30 - Jul 31, 2008	(1,2,3,4,8)	35A and 35B (except Fort Huachuca)	Any bear except sows with cubs	20	3
	Apr 30 - Aug 31, 2008	(1,2,3,4,8)	Fort Huachuca in Unit 35A	Any bear except sows with cubs		1
Total					250	

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Class F or G license plus Spring Bear hunt permit-tag obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114. Applicants must apply by Hunt Number.

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304 and R12-4-318 and crossbow as prescribed in R12-4-216.

Notes:

1. No person shall knowingly use any substance as bait at any time to attract or take bear (R12-4-304).
2. The use of dogs is prohibited during Bear hunts from January 1 to July 31 (R12-4-318).
3. When the number of female bears equaling the female harvest objective for a particular hunt has been reported killed, by either hunters or the Department, the unit(s) will be closed at sundown the Wednesday immediately following. Hunters are responsible for calling 1-800-970-BEAR (2327) before hunting to determine if their desired hunt unit is still open. The female harvest objective is combined for Unit 35A/35B and Fort Huachuca hunts, and both hunts will close when the female harvest objective is reached for Unit 35A/35B.
4. The Fort Huachuca Military Reservation in Unit 35A is open to bear hunting only to properly licensed Fort Huachuca military and civilian personnel holding a valid Fort Huachuca post hunting permit. Hunt numbers, season dates and/or special regulations must be obtained from Fort Huachuca. Increases in Force Protection may result in hunt cancellations at any time with little or no prior notification. In the event a hunt is cancelled due to an increase in security, hunters drawn for these permits will not be reimbursed or otherwise compensated by the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Applications for these hunts must be submitted to the Arizona Game and Fish Department by the published deadline. Fort Huachuca contact information: Commander, U.S. Army Garrison, ATTN: ATZS-ISB (Wildlife), Fort Huachuca, AZ 85613-6000, (520)-533-1867 or (520) 533-7083, disenrd@hua.army.mil, or www.huachuca.army.mil/usag/dpw/hunting.html.
5. Unit 31 and 32 hunts -- Access to Aravaipa Canyon Wildlife Area (as prescribed in R12-4-802) is allowed by permit only, available through the Safford Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management. For more information, contact the Safford Field Office at (928) 348-4450 or www.blm.gov/az/sfo/aravaipa/aravaipa.htm.
6. Unit 3C Hunts -- For all hunts that include that portion of Unit 3C south of AZ Hwy 260. Due to the Rodeo-Chediski Fire, there are Special Restrictions per Forest Service Order in place: 1) Vehicle access is allowed only on roads marked with white arrows; 2) No overnight camping, except in designated areas. Camping is permitted in five areas south of AZ Hwy 260 including Black Canyon Rim Campground, Gentry Campground, Lewis Campground (contact Lakeside Ranger District first), some portions of the forest west of FS 300, just south of AZ Hwy 260, and some areas west of FS 512; 3) Cross-country travel with any type of motorized vehicle is not allowed; 4) Retrieval of big game is restricted to roads only (hunters with dead, down, and tagged big game animals can travel on any visible roads, including any secondary or two-track, to retrieve their animals). Please call the Black Mesa Ranger District Office (928-535-4481) or Lakeside Ranger District Office (928-368-5111) for questions regarding the Forest Order and camping areas.

7. 23 North Hunt Unit - That portion of Unit 23 located north of the following: Beginning at the junction of Tonto Creek and Spring Creek; east along Spring Creek to FR 134; east on FR 134 to FR 129; east on FR 129 to AZ Hwy 288; east on AZ Hwy 288 to FR 54; east on FR 54 to FR 202; south on FR 202 to FR 127; east on FR 127 to FR 127A; east on FR 127A to the Fort Apache Indian Reservation boundary.
8. Annual Female Harvest Objective – If the Annual Female Harvest Objective for a given unit is met during a calendar year, that unit or portion thereof will close to bear hunting for the current and future bear seasons during that calendar year. The Annual Female Harvest Objective is comprised of any female bear killed by a hunter or the Department. Refer to the table below for the Annual Female Harvest Objective by unit.

BEAR SPECIAL REGULATIONS: As prescribed in R12-4-308, all hunters must contact an Arizona Game and Fish Department office in person or by telephone at 1-800-970-BEAR (2327) within 48 hours of taking a bear. The report shall include the hunter's name, hunting license number, tag number, sex of the bear taken, management unit where the bear was taken, and telephone number at which the hunter can be reached to obtain additional information. Within 10 days of taking a bear, the hunter shall present the bear's skull, hide, and attached proof of sex to a designated Arizona Game and Fish Department employee for inspection. If a hunter freezes the skull or hide before presenting it for inspection, the hunter shall prop the jaw open to allow access to the teeth and ensure that the attached proof of sex is identifiable and accessible (pursuant to R12-4-308). A premolar tooth will be removed during the inspection. Successful hunters are encouraged to contact the nearest Department office by telephone to coordinate inspections.

BEAR BAG LIMIT: One (1) bear per calendar year except as prescribed in R12-4-120.

Annual Female Harvest Objective									
Unit	Objective	Unit	Objective	Unit	Objective	Unit	Objective	Unit	Objective
3B	10	22N	10	24A	8	29/30A	10	33	4
3C	4	22S	4	27	25	31	9	34A	7
6B	4	23N	15	28	5	32	6	35A/35B	7